

In The Claims

Please cancel claims 1-101 without prejudice.

Please add the following new claims:

1 102. (New) A method comprising:
2 a first author creating a first form, the first form
3 including a set of fields , each field having one or more
4 field attributes, the set of fields constituting a format
5 specification of the first form;
6 a first server presenting a first user interface to a
7 first configurer, the first user interface being used by the
8 first configurer to provide the first form to the first
9 server, ;
10 the first server parsing the first form provided by the
11 first configurer to extract format specification information
12 of the first form; and
13 the first server presenting to the first configurer a
14 second user interface which is constructed based on the format
15 specification information extracted from the first form, the
16 second user interface being used by the first configurer to
17 configure a set of functions to be performed by the first
18 server in processing submissions of the first form, the set of
19 functions including one or more functions being responsive to
20 the values of one or more fields contained in the submissions
21 of the first form.

1 103. (New) The method of claim 102 further including:
2 generating a first program including one or more program
3 components to perform the set of functions configured by the
4 first configurer in processing a submission of the first form
5 submitted by a first user, the first program being designated
6 as the program to process submissions of the first form.

1 104. (New) The method of claim 102 further including:
2 generating a set of directives corresponding to the set
3 of functions configured by the first configurer, the set of
4 directives to be used by a first program that is designated as
5 the program to process submissions of a plurality of forms
6 including submissions of the first form.

1 105. (New) The method of claim 104 wherein the first program
2 is configured to process submissions of multiple forms based
3 upon multiple sets of directives, each set of directives
4 corresponding to the set of functions configured for each
5 form.

1 106. (New) The method of claim 102 wherein a configuration
2 data structure is created for the first form to include
3 configuration information provided by the first configurer
4 with respect to the set of functions to be performed in
5 response to a submission of the first form.

1 107. (New) The method of claim 106 further including:
2 maintaining consistency between the configuration data
3 structure and the format specification of the first form.

1 108. (New) The method of claim 107 wherein maintaining
2 consistency includes:
3 modifying the configuration information in the
4 configuration data structure in response to changes in the
5 format specification of the first form.

1 109. (New) The method of claim 107 wherein maintaining
2 consistency includes:
3 determining whether the format specification of the first
4 form has been changed since the configuration data structure
5 was created; and
6 if the format specification of the first form has been
7 changed since the configuration data structure was created,
8 updating the configuration data structure to reflect the
9 changes that have been made to the format specification of the
10 first form.

1 110. (New) A system comprising:
2 logic to present a first user interface to a first
3 configurer, the first user interface being used by the first
4 configurer to provide a first form to the system, the first

5 form being created by a first author and including a set of
6 fields, each field having one or more field attributes, the
7 set of fields constituting a format specification of the first
8 form;

9 logic to parse the first form provided by the first
10 configurer to extract format specification information of the
11 first form; and

12 logic to present to the first configurer a second user
13 interface which is constructed based on the format
14 specification information extracted from the first form, the
15 second user interface being used by the first configurer to
16 configure a set of functions to be performed by the system in
17 processing submissions of the first form, the set of functions
18 including one or more functions being responsive to the values
19 of one or more fields contained in the submissions of the
20 first form.

1 111. (New) The system of claim 110 further including:

2 logic to generate a first program including one or more
3 program components to perform the set of functions configured
4 by the first configurer in processing a submission of the
5 first form submitted by a first user, the first program being
6 designated as the program to process submissions of the first
7 form.

1 112. (New) The system of claim 110 further including:
2 logic to generate a set of directives corresponding to
3 the set of functions configured by the first configurer, the
4 set of directives to be used by a first program that is
5 designated as the program to process submissions of a
6 plurality of forms including submissions of the first form.

1 113. (New) The system of claim 112 wherein the first program
2 is configured to process submissions of multiple forms based
3 upon multiple sets of directives, each set of directives
4 corresponding to the set of functions configured for each
5 form.

1 114. (New) The system of claim 110 wherein a configuration
2 data structure is created for the first form to include
3 configuration information provided by the first configurer
4 with respect to the set of functions to be performed in
5 response to a submission of the first form.

1 115. (New) The system of claim 114 further including:
2 logic to maintain consistency between the configuration
3 data structure and the format specification of the first form.

1 116. (New) The system of claim 115 wherein logic to maintain
2 consistency includes:

3 logic to modify the configuration information in the
4 configuration data structure in response to changes in the
5 format specification of the first form.

1 117. (New) The system of claim 115 wherein logic to maintain
2 consistency includes:

3 logic to determine whether the format specification of
4 the first form has been changed since the configuration data
5 structure was created; and

6 logic to update the configuration data structure to
7 reflect changes that have been made to the format
8 specification of the first form if the format specification of
9 the first form has been changed since the configuration data
10 structure was created.

1 118. (New) A machine-readable medium comprising instructions
2 which, when executed by a machine, cause the machine to
3 perform operations including:

4 a first server presenting a first user interface to a
5 first configurer , the first user interface being used by the
6 first configurer to provide a first form to the first server,
7 the first form being created by a first author and including a
8 set of fields , each field having one or more field
9 attributes, the set of fields constituting a format
10 specification of the first form;

11 the first server parsing the first form provided by the
12 first configurer to extract format specification information
13 of the first form; and

14 the first server presenting to the first configurer a
15 second user interface which is constructed based on the format
16 specification information extracted from the first form, the
17 second user interface being used by the first configurer to
18 configure a set of functions to be performed by the first
19 server in processing submissions of the first form, the set of
20 functions including one or more functions being responsive to
21 the values of one or more fields contained in the submissions
22 of the first form.

1 119. (New) The machine-readable medium of claim 118 further
2 including:

3 generating a first program including one or more program
4 components to perform the set of functions configured by the
5 first configurer in processing a submission of the first form
6 submitted by a first user, the first program being designated
7 as the program to process submissions of the first form.

1 120. (New) The machine-readable medium of claim 118 further
2 including:

3 generating a set of directives corresponding to the set
4 of functions configured by the first configurer, the set of

5 directives to be used by a first program that is designated as
6 the program to process submissions of a plurality of forms
7 including submissions of the first form.

1 121. (New) The machine-readable medium of claim 120 wherein
2 the first program is configured to process submissions of
3 multiple forms based upon multiple sets of directives, each
4 set of directives corresponding to the set of functions
5 configured for each form.

1 122. (New) The machine-readable medium of claim 118 wherein a
2 configuration data structure is created for the first form to
3 include configuration information provided by the first
4 configurer with respect to the set of functions to be
5 performed in response to a submission of the first form.

1 123. (New) The machine-readable medium of claim 122 further
2 including:

3 maintaining consistency between the configuration data
4 structure and the format specification of the first form.

1 124. (New) The machine-readable medium of claim 123 wherein
2 maintaining consistency includes:

3 modifying the configuration information in the
4 configuration data structure in response to changes in the
5 format specification of the first form.

1 125. (New) The machine-readable medium of claim 123 wherein
2 maintaining consistency includes:

3 determining whether the format specification of the first
4 form has been changed since the configuration data structure was
5 created; and

6 if the format specification of the first form has been
7 changed since the configuration data structure was created,
8 updating the configuration data structure to reflect the changes
9 that have been made to the format specification of the first
10 form.